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Access to Government Documents:
Readings of the Issues

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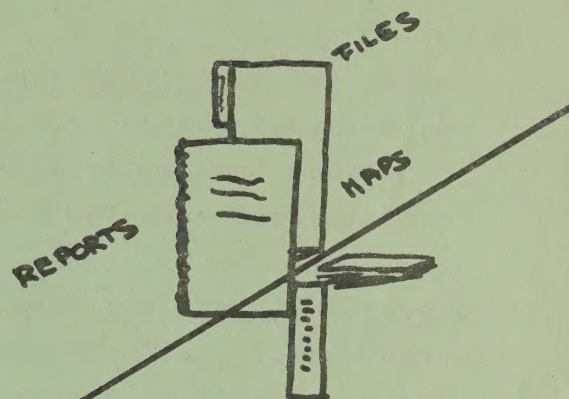




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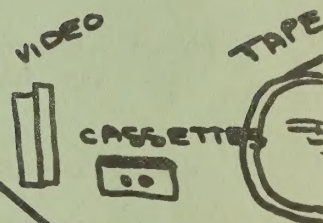
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ACCESS

TO GOVERNMENT

DOCUMENTS



READINGS ON THE ISSUES

JUNE 1979

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Canadian developments and views on Access to government information:
selected listing of reports and articles

Access to government documents and information is the topic of the Joint CLA/ASTED seminar this year. The Ottawa location for the CLA Conference as well as the current political and public interest in this subject should make this a relevant session for many librarians.

The present concern for access excludes published government information which in itself has been a long-standing library concern. The following bibliography will guide those not familiar with the subject of access to unpublished government documents in understanding this important issue.

- 1969 Canada. Task Force on Government Information
To know and be known: report Ottawa, Queen's Printer, 1969
- 1972 Robertson, Gordon
"Official responsibility, private conscience and public information" (in) Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada, Series IV, 10 (1972)
- 1973 Canada. Privy Council Office
Cabinet Directive - no.45: Notices of motion for the production of papers.
Lists criteria to be applied in exempting documents from production.
- 1974 Canada. Parliament. House of Commons
Bill C-225 "An Act respecting the right of the public to information concerning the public business" 1st reading, October 15, 1974 (Mr. Baldwin)
- 1974 Canada. Parliament. Standing Joint Committee on Regulations and other Statutory Instruments
Minutes of proceedings and evidence 1st Session (30th Parliament) 1974-76; 3rd Session (30th Parliament) 1977-78
- 1974 Wall, D.F.
The provision of government information. Ottawa, Privy Council Office, 1974.

A study of the present system examining its major failings and recommending new approaches.

- 1976 Canadian Library Association.
Submission to the Standing Joint Committee on Regulations and other Statutory Instruments (by) Brian Land (President) and Paul Kitchen (Executive Director) May 11, 1976.
 App. RSI-33, no. 71
- A detailed evaluation of the present system for distribution of government publications to the public through libraries and a proposal to facilitate access to unpublished reports and files.
- 1977 Canada. Committee on the Concept of Ombudsman
Report. Ottawa, 1977.
- 1977 Canada. Secretary of State
Legislation on public access to government documents.
 Ottawa, June 1977. Bilingual.
- Also known as the Greep paper on Access to Information
- 1977 Canada. Treasury Board. Administrative Policy Branch.
Policy and guidelines on Canadian government publishing.
 2nd.ed., Ottawa, Department of Supply and Services, 1977
 (T.B. 748136)
- 1977 Hearder-Mean, Wendy
 "Canadian libraries and access to government information"
Canadian Library Journal, December 1977. pp.423-8
- 1977 Rankin, Murray T.
Freedom of information in Canada: will the doors stay shut?
 Canadian Bar Association, 1977
- 1978 Atkey, Ronald G.
 "Freedom of information: the problem of confidentiality in relation to the administrative process", Paper delivered at the Conference on Administrative Justice, Ottawa, Jan.27, 1978 (also in Minutes of the Standing Joint Committee, April 25, 1978, App. RSI-19)
- 1978 Canada. Laws, Statutes, Etc.
Canadian Human Rights Act, Part IV: "Protection of personnel information" proclaimed March 1, 1978.
- The regulations are published in Treasury Board Circular 1978-8: Interim Guide for the Implementation of Part IV of the Canadian Human Rights Act.
- 1978 Canada. Parliament. Standing Joint Committee on Regulations and other Statutory Instruments
 Report on the Green Paper on Legislation on Public Access to Government Documents (in) Minutes, June 27, 1978, no.34
- This is the Interim Report on the subject matter of the Green Paper.

1978

Johansen, David

Summary of recommendations by witnesses appearing before the Standing Joint Committee on Regulations and other Statutory Instruments on the subject matter of the Green paper on Legislation on Public Access to Government Documents, May 19, 1978 (in) Minutes, June 27, 1978 no.34 App. RSI-22.

Lists proposals for 1) criteria for exclusion 2) means of acquiring information 3) the review process and 4) offences.

1978

Rose, Francis

"Publishing and information policies of the government of Canada: some recent developments" in Government publications review, vol.5, no.4 pp. 391-397

An overview of developments since 1970 such as the Canadian Library Association efforts, freedom of information demands in Canada, disbandment of Information Canada, Canadian Human Rights Act legislation, the new government publishing directive and the private Publicat service.

In addition, many concerned parties have submitted briefs to the Standing Joint Committee regarding public access to government documents. These elaborate on the necessity for legislation as well as the form it should take:

1974-76 Session

NCR Civil Liberties Association (in) Minutes, no.47

Rubin, Ken (in) Minutes, no.47

Brown-John, Dr. C. Lloyd (in) Minutes, no.69

Canadian Library Association (in) Minutes, no.71

1978 Session

Canadian Manufacturers Association (in) Minutes - Feb. 21, 1978

ACCESS (A Canadian Committee for the Right to Public Information) Feb. 28, 1978

Canadian Federation of Agriculture - March 7, 1978

Parliamentary Press Gallery - March 7, 1978

Association canadienne des éditeurs de quotidiens - March 14, 1978

CAUT - March 14, 1978



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| Canadian Railway Labour Association | - March 14, 1978 |
| Canadian Labour Congress | - March 21, 1978 |
| Periodical Workers Association Writers' Union of Canada | joint - March 21, 1978 |
| Canadian Bar Association | - April 4, 1978 |
| National Anti-Poverty Organization | - April 11, 1978 |
| Rubin, Ken | - April 11, 1978 |
| Sunshine Association | - April 18, 1978 |
| Canadian Council on Social Development | - April 25, 1978 |
| Canadian Library Association | - June 26, 1978 |

All these appear in the Committee's Minutes of proceedings and evidence.



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